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Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor  
Robert W. Swanson, Director

## Saginaw Receives Cool Cities “Neighborhoods in Progress” Designation

**October 12, 2006** – Robert W. Swanson, director of the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth (DLEG), recently announced that Saginaw has been selected as a Cool Cities “Neighborhoods in Progress” designee.

This project received the Cool Cities designation and priority access to state resources, without the catalyst funding. “We had the funding available for 12 Neighborhoods in Progress, however we received 16 outstanding for proposals. As a result, we opted to add Adrian, Dearborn, Cadillac, and Saginaw projects as Cool Cities designees to assist their projects with the resources we have available including priority access and technical assistance,” said Department of Labor & Economic Growth Director Robert W. Swanson. “We’ve learned from past Cool Cities projects that just the designation alone gives them an opportunity to leverage significant investment into their communities.”

The Depot’s first floor will open with a gallery, dance studio and Historic Materials Exchange; and the Power House will be restored with sustainable energy business and a small biodiesel plant.

The Cool Cities Program is part of Governor Jennifer M. Granholm’s economic plan to help revitalize Michigan’s cities by retaining and attracting the jobs and people critical to the emerging economies of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The program is funded by redirecting existing resources in state government.

The 12 projects receiving the Cool Cities Neighborhoods in Progress and catalyst grant are located in Benton Harbor, Detroit (3), Flint, Grand Rapids, Howell, Ionia, Lansing, Mount Clemens, Muskegon, and Pontiac. The four projects that received the Cool Cities designation and priority access to state resources, without the \$100,000 catalyst funding are: Adrian, Cadillac, Dearborn and Saginaw.



Department of Labor & Economic Growth director Robert W. Swanson (left) presents a sign designating Saginaw as a Cool Cities Neighborhood in Progress.

(more)



Pictured left to right:  
1<sup>st</sup> row – Andy Hickner w/Senator Levin's Office, Shirley McGregor, Judy Ann Rau, Charlotte Armstrong, Lee Austin, Daniel Coe, Dave Biswas w/Representative Kahn's Office, Robert W. Swanson  
2<sup>nd</sup> row – Michael DeVos, Alvin McGregor, Yma Johnson, Cheryl Dawdy, Chris Fraleigh, Jim Moran